



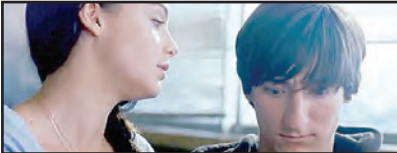
THE COLONNADE

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(Counter-clockwise from top) Screenshots from the films “Young Americans,” “The Heroes of Arvine Place,” “Love At First Sight,” “The Incident(s) at Paradise Bay,” and “The Spectacular Now.”

Red carpet and rising stars to make an apperance at GC during the first Milledgeville Film Festival

Taylor Hembree and Mark Watkins
Contributing and Senior Reporter

Ok, so by now you’ve heard of the film festivals in Cannes and Toronto and maybe even London, but chances are you haven’t heard that Georgia College will host the first Milledgeville Film Festival starting April 25

If you’re not familiar, film festivals are basically like big screening parties for films that haven’t been released to “audiences everywhere.” It’s a chance for young and/or independent filmmakers to have their works seen by influential names in the film industry in hopes of a distribution deal.

The Milledgeville festival will draw a number of rising celebrities and film industry mavins, and, yes, there will be a red carpet.

Ten films will be shown at the event and individual screening tickets will be \$3 each. There will also be talks, Q&As with directors, workshops, keynote speeches and after-parties.

Despite being the debut year for the festival, there was no shortage of applications.

“We had a 40 percent acceptance rate, which is extraordinary for the first time,” Amy Pinney, a board member for the festival and theatre professor at GC, said.

The board fielded submissions from across the world, and, but only 10 of the films were selected. The college and community have worked together to make this experience come to life.

“We’re really excited that Georgia College is partnering with us; we’re showing the films primarily in [Arts & Sciences], and there is a showing at the Greenway as well,” Pinney said.

Aside from bringing the red carpet to campus for a weekend, festival planners also hope to show off Milledgeville to potential filmmakers.

Pinney describes Milledgeville as “a prime film location; we’re close enough to Atlanta, and you can get so many different looks in such a short distance.” Not only is the board working on showing the location off, but also bringing in prime-time actors to teach students how the industry really works, namely the keynote

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION



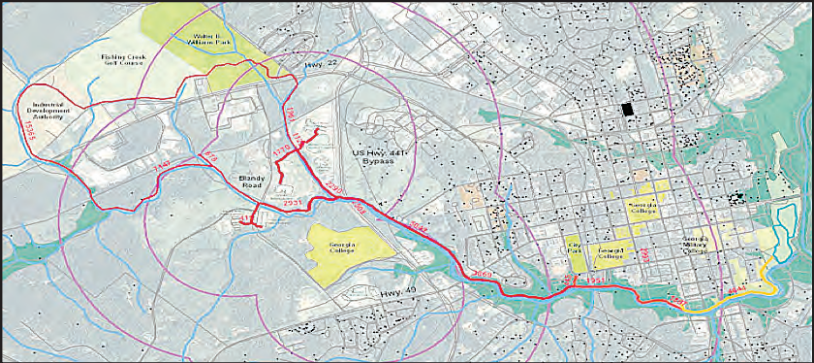
(Counter-clockwise from top) Screenshots from the films “The Beginning and the End,” “Sound of Doubt,” “Freeze,” “Blood Brother,” (small left) “Rose, Mary and Time,” (small right) “The One Who Loves You,” and “The Wingham.”

“We’re really excited that Georgia College is partnering with us; we’re showing the films primarily in [Arts & Sciences], and there is a showing at the Greenway as well.

Amy Pinney,
GC theatre professor

Film Fest page 2

Bike path to unite West, Main Campus



A map of the proposed trail color codes the stages of construction. Phase 1 is marked in orange and the progression continues left. The end goal is for the trail to stretch to Macon.

Alexis Haggerty
Contributing Reporter

Many healthy-living advocates are hard at work constructing a multi-use trail that will give hundreds of students an alternative route to school by connecting the Oconee Greenway to West Campus.

This ambitious project, named the Fishing Creek Community Trail, will eventually provide the Milledgeville community with a 9.36-mile paved path for biking and walking. This trail will extend off the Oconee Greenway, follow Fishing Creek near the eastern side of town and then turn to reach the student-residential complex on West Campus. There are also future plans for this path to connect Milledgeville and Macon.

The idea for the trail began in 2009 with an application to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and “Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities” project. The Fishing Creek Community Trail was the centerpiece of the grant submission.

The question of how to connect West Campus to the rest of the Georgia College community has been pondered since the development of the

alternate campus in 2004. The location of West Campus leaves it cut off by three state highways, which makes it less than pedestrian friendly. A few options have been presented over the years, but the most economical option was to construct this multi-purpose path along Fishing Creek because of existing infrastructure.

“It finally just hit somebody that the 441 bypass already crosses Fishing Creek. There is already an existing bridge, and there is enough room under the bridge on either side of the street to allow for a trail to be built through there,” Adam Heagy, retail and service manager at Oconee Outfitters, said.

The construction of this trail is welcomed by GC students, whether they live at The Village or not.

“I would use it to ride to the gym,” Leigh Benson, a senior biology major who lives on main campus, said. “Because a lot of times I have thought about running to the gym, but it’s just not safe.”

Fishing Creek Community Trail is comprised of multiple phases that will be created as additional funding

Bike Path page 4

On the ground, in the rubble, with the people

History professor travels to Ukraine over Spring Break

William Risch
Guest Contributor

I arrived in Ukraine’s capitol, Kiev, on March 15, the beginning of Spring Break. My original hopes to visit Crimea and interview Euromaidan activists was already over. While the capitol’s main railroad station, just across the block from me, had trains running every day, the news featured horrifying stories of activists, priests and journalists being kidnapped, arrested and sometimes tortured by Crimean “self-defense” units (made up partly of pro-Yanukovich police who’d fled Kiev), Cossacks from Russia or even Russian special forces.

Meanwhile, in eastern Ukraine, my friend and fellow historian left Donetsk with his wife, fearing that the Russians were about to invade. They left their son with his Russian mother-in-law and came to Kiev.

Both planned to sign up for the National Guard, a new military force organized by the Ukrainian government to prevent a possible Russian invasion of Ukraine’s east and south.

I decided to stay in the capitol and interview people who witnessed the violent clashes with police forces that have made the front page of newspapers worldwide and left more than 100 protesters dead and something like 300 activists missing (and presumed dead).

On my first full day in Kiev, I paid respects to those that lost their lives. Close to 100 had died in fighting on Instytutska Street which runs down to Independence Square (commonly known as the Maidan), the site of the Euromaidan protest camp. Makeshift memorials lined the street, marking



Flowers in remembrance of fallen Ukrainians lay on barricades on Instytutska Street.

where people had died.

It was Sunday, and hundreds of people were passing by to lay flowers and candles, read tributes and sometimes cry. One of the 100 or so dead – referred to as the Heavenly Hundred in the media – was a history major at Lviv National University when I worked there. I still have a notebook where he left his email and cell phone for a student debate some friends and I had put together in December 2003. He was shot by snipers on Feb. 20.

The circumstances of the shooting still are not clear. I couldn’t find a spot marking where he died, so I laid flowers where another victim had been shot and killed.

More than a month after the regime of Viktor Yanukovich had been overthrown, I could still feel the impact of the violence on Kievans, especially those still camped at the Maidan. One 22-year-old man wearing military camouflage said he didn’t want



Right Sector guards stand outside a store taken over by their organization.

to remember what had happened in January and February, but older men in his tent, Afghan veterans, and the tent’s elderly cook, couldn’t stop talk

Ukraine page 4

NEWS FLASH

Coverdell Chair Public Policy Colloquium

The Coverdell Chair Public Policy Colloquium Lecture “Republican Party—A View From Inside” will be held on April 3 from 3-4:30p.m. in Magnolia Ballroom. The lecture focus on a variety of different public policy issues.

QUOTABLE

“When we choose songs for shows, we definitely choose people who are popular like Gavin DeGraw and Lorde and just try to make it our own.”
-Crystal Pratt, Harvest Moon member

See Leisure on page 7

INSIDE

News	
In the space above.....	2
Scotland considers succession.....	3
A&E	
Sum of Me.....	9
From records to reality.....	10
Sports	
Triathlon Trifecta.....	13
GC Prowlers Club new on campus.....	13
Opinion.....	6

NUMBER CRUNCH

17

The Bobcats lead on the Clark Atlanta Pathers

See Sports on page 14



In the space above



EMILY BUCKINGHAM / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Now this is beauty. I may have had to wake up at 5 a.m., but a view like this made it all worthwhile.

EMILY BUCKINGHAM
EDITORIAL COLUMNIST

Chances are that if you ask an Australian about their capitol, Canberra, they’ll tell you it doesn’t have much going for it. They say that the only people who live in Canberra are government employees or students. The city lacks that certain spark, they say, but I couldn’t disagree more. Canberra is full of its own life and culture. It is the center of Australian power. The city and its people strive to shape the future of the country while preserving its past. Museums and government buildings line streets. Anyone who says there’s nothing to do in Canberra just isn’t looking hard enough.

Along with Canberra’s normal hustle and bustle, the city hosts several festivals every March. Last week was the peak of the festivities with the annual hot air balloon festival. Now, I have always wanted to go on a hot air balloon ride. It’s been sitting on my bucket list for a few years now. So as soon as tickets went on sale, my friends and I scrambled to get ours.

Our day started bright and early at 5 a.m. Even with excitement coursing through my veins, pulling myself out of bed was tough. Nonetheless I hauled myself out of bed, ate a piece of toast and made my way to the takeoff site. Once we got there, we met our pilot, and he showed us how to prepare our balloon. He put us in charge of unraveling and stretching out the canvas. Now I’m not one of those weird morning people, so naturally I was a bit groggy as I worked.

Next we watched as the pilot tipped the basket on its side, pointed an industrial fan at the balloon, and basically took a flamethrower to it. At least,



EMILY BUCKINGHAM / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
You see? Didn’t I tell you? A giant flamethrower in the balloon!

that’s what it looked like in my hazy state. Within a couple of minutes, our balloon was inflated and ready to go. One by one we climbed into the padded basket. Surprisingly, it was both comfortable and spacious. We all settled in while the pilot did a final check before pushing off.

As the basket lifted off the ground, I felt my grogginess fly away from me, light as a feather. I went from tired and cranky to euphoric in approximately two seconds. As we ascended, I could see that the sun had made its way over the dark mountains and set the sky ablaze with pink, yellow and orange. The brilliant colors glimmered across Canberra as we continued to climb. Seeing the other balloons, each with its own design and color, is what really made it spectacular. All around us they dipped and soared. Some even would

go down and touch the lake before ascending again. I felt like I had wandered into some sort of spin off of the movie “Up.”

I could see all of Canberra. I saw the lake filled with early morning rowers. I saw the distant mountains glowing red in the sun. I saw men and women making their way to the Parliament house with their coffees in hand. And I saw kangaroos lazily graze in the park. I felt like a giant looking down on a kingdom. It has been years since I have felt so at peace.

Unfortunately our time in the sky came to an end. After a rather rough landing during which I was severely concerned we were about to topple over, we helped roll up the canvas before being escorted back to our original starting point. One by one, I watched each balloon return to the earth and the beautiful canvases crumple. I was sad to see it all end.

Film Fest
Continued from page 1...

speaker: Stevie Lynn Jones, who plays Beth Ann Gibson in Crisis on NBC.

Along with young hosts and stars, industry professionals will provide feedback during panel discussions.

Although planning the festival has been the work of many, the idea came from only one.

“What inspired me was that last year I was

meeting with a fellow producer up in Atlanta, and I was telling him all about coming down here and about how it’s a great town but how I’d only heard about the Bald Shorts [Film Festival], and I was really surprised because this is an arts town. It’s a college town, and there’s lots of potential here, so why is it not here?” Jeremiah Bennett, chairman of the board, said.

Weekend and day tickets are available on the festival’s website, milledgevillefilmfestival.com. Tickets are discounted with an early-bird discount until April 1.

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THE · SHORT · LIST

The top news stories from all over the world as collected, curated and composed by **Sarah K. Wilson**



1 A new hope. Malaysia’s transportation minister announced Wednesday that 122 new objects that may be from Malaysian Airlines Flight 370 have been discovered on satellite images. The objects, located roughly 1,500 miles from Perth, Australia, appear to be made of solid material and some reach 75 feet in length. The search for the debris is taking place in one of the world’s most remote regions. (BBC News)

2 Something in the air. Air pollution has been identified as the killer of 7 million people in 2012. In other words, one in eight deaths were caused by dirty air, according to figures released by the World Health Organization on Tuesday. One-third of the air pollution-related deaths occurred in Asia, where rapidly developing industrialization in India and China have resulted in their infamously-poor air quality. (New York Times)

3 Mudslide. The death toll from Saturday’s mudslide in Washington state has risen to 24, while 176 people are still missing. Officials say the mudslide in Snohomish County, which is located about an hour north of Seattle, was triggered by heavy rainfall that made the land unstable. According to geomorphologist Daniel Miller, the area affected has long been known to be unstable. (CNN)

4 Shame on Denmark. The country’s Copenhagen Zoo, made infamous in world news earlier this year for killing a healthy giraffe, has made headlines again for the wrong reasons. The zoo killed four healthy lions on Monday to make room for one new one, according to a report in The Guardian. Unlike the giraffe, the four euthanized lions will not be fed to other animals in the zoo. How thoughtful. (CBS News)

5 Wait, what’s in there? An Oklahoma district judge ruled on Wednesday that the state’s execution law is unconstitutional due to secrecy surrounding the source of the drugs used to kill inmates. Two death row prisoners sued the state for disclosure of the makers of the drug that would kill them. County District Judge Patricia Parrish said the secrecy surrounding the drugs is a “violation of due process because access to the courts has

6 And some good news. Hospitals can be scary, but a little less so now than in past decades. The number of infections Americans contract during hospital stays has declined substantially over the last 10 years, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Federal health officials report that in 2011, there were about 722,000 hospital infections in America, a number far less than past estimates. That sounds like a lot but still, good news, right? (New York Times)

Did we miss something? Tweet us at @GCSUnade or vent to us on our website GCSUNADE.com.



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After 700 years, Scotland considers succession



On June 23-24, Scotland is set to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn, with the stunt choreographers behind films such as “Gladiator” and “Robin Hood” guiding more than 300 people in an epic reenactment of the decisive battle that won Scotland independence from England in 1314.

The victory is a cornerstone of Scottish pride, inspiring art, literature and Scotland’s national anthem. The significance is especially important this year, as less than 100 days later, on Sept. 18, the people of Scotland will go to polls to determine the future of their nation: whether to remain a part of the United Kingdom or break off to form an independent nation.

Taking over the Scottish Parliament by a landslide in 2011, the Scottish Nationalist Party has sought to make good on its central goal of es-

Even with its strong economy and sharp ideological differences with the United Kingdom, Scotland would be taking a colossal gamble in breaking away from a powerful and prosperous nation.

tablishing an independently-governed Scotland separate from the UK. As such, an agreement has been made between the Scottish Parliament and the superior UK Parliament which will allow the people of Scotland to hold a referendum vote to decide whether they want to secede from the Kingdom or not.

If the vote passes, Scotland will split from the rest of the United Kingdom and begin the process of establishing a new government, with fully independent capabilities anticipated as early as March 2016. If the vote fails, Scotland will remain a part of the UK and the debate will shift toward whether the government should extend additional powers to the Scottish Parliament.

Supporters of independence have argued for

the necessity of the split in better promoting Scotland’s political and economic well-being. Generally liberal voting Scots have a long history of chafing under the policies and principles of the Conservative-controlled UK Parliament in London, with independence supporters toting the break as a chance to finally rule the nation with economic and political stances that are popular in Scotland but often dismissed by England.

Scotland’s vast oil and natural gas reserves have also played into independence arguments as some financial estimates indicate that the impact of the Scottish energy industry on the economy (unrestricted by UK regulations and distributions of profit throughout the British Isles) could make Scotland the 14th richest nation on Earth.

Those opposed to secession have voiced concerns about the destabilizing effect independence could have on Scotland and the rest of the UK. The division of the two economies could prove damaging to both nations if they can’t adjust for financial changes. Additionally, concerns have arisen about the strength and influence Scotland would be able to exercise as a nation without the backing of the UK.

A self-governing Scotland would lose the trade and diplomatic strengths of the UK’s European Union membership, putting the fledgling

nation at an economic disadvantage and forcing Scotland into a disadvantageous competition for global commerce with the larger, more-established UK.

Although the referendum is only six months away, the greater impact of Scottish independence is still largely reserved to speculation and uncertainty. Considering the circumstances of the debate at the time of writing, I doubt that the vote will pass. Even with its strong economy and sharp ideological differences with the United Kingdom, Scotland would be taking a colossal gamble in breaking away from a powerful and prosperous nation.

Britain has been a combined state for more than 600 years and severing such ties to dive into an unknown future alone could be a hard sell while working within the system to expand Scottish influence seems a safer avenue to the same end. However, polling for independence support has been dynamic and hard to judge.

There is still plenty of time for the factors to change and upcoming events to sway public opinion one way or the other. Regardless of the outcome though, this may represent a once-in-a-lifetime moment where a country must make a difficult decision about the course its future will take.

Catching up with Mr. & Ms. Georgia College

SOPHIE GOODMAN
SENIOR REPORTER

Nassim Talbi, Mr. GC

colonnade: What are your responsibilities as Mr. GC?
talbi: We’re trying to make a service project. It doesn’t matter what fraternity or sorority you’re in, it’s the entire school and teachers.

colonnade: What do you want your community service to be?
talbi: We know who we want to benefit. We don’t know what we’re going to do. [The firefighters and local heroes is] a good philanthropy event. We’re going to give them water bottles. My fraternity has had a party where everyone who comes in gives five water bottles, then all those water bottles go to the fireman. The first time we did it, we had 900, and then this past time we had about 1,200. It’s local within Milledgeville, so the impact is right here.

colonnade: How were you chosen to run?
talbi: We just had a vote, and we said we needed a rep



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ASHLEY MILLER / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Sammi Shapiro, Ms. GC

colonnade: What are your responsibilities as Ms. GC?
shapiro: Just basically being a good representation for the organization that we ran for. Also, we’ll be working on a service project to lead Georgia College in community-wide efforts ... to do a school-wide [community service].

colonnade: What do you want your community service to be?
shapiro: We want to work [with] the firemen and local heroes. I just really liked doing that as my thing for the campaign. They’re all such nice guys, and they really appreciated us wanting to help out and do things for them. It’s personal to the people who live here.

colonnade: Are the responsibilities more than you were expecting?
shapiro: We didn’t really understand what it was. We were just going to help our organizations campaign. Then

Ms. GC page 4

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Mr. GC
Continued from page 3...

representative. Then names were thrown out, and they voted for me. All we did was print out fliers. The guys just stole all the candy from the other sororities and then dished it out ourselves.

colonnade: How have the past few weeks been as Mr. GC?

talbi: Probably the exact same. In one of my classes, my teachers have no idea what it is, but all my friends know, so they're like, "Oh, yeah, Mr. GC thinks that this equation is right." It's not a bad thing, it's just funny. It really hasn't changed much, but it is cool.

colonnade: What is a responsibility you have as Mr. GC?

talbi: You can now book us for events.

colonnade: What are some tips for potential candidates next year?

talbi: Go to all the clubs and sororities and talk to them. You don't have to talk for a long time. If you're a guy, go to the sororities and bring a flower. Some of the other guys brought a whole bunch of flowers; I just brought one for their candidate. If you go to a club, don't bring a flower.

colonnade: Were you shocked to win?

talbi: The only time a Delta Sig won was one of our founding brothers a long time ago. It was cool to bring the crown home. I had no idea. We didn't know because there were two snow days between the week, and I didn't know what was going on. The homecoming concert was canceled, and we were like, "Alright, it's over." It was a shock, but it was cool. It was a shock, but it was cool.

What do you think of your new canidates?

Tweet us at @GCSUnade
or vent to us on our website GCSUNADE.com.

Ms. GC
Continued from page 3...

we met with Juawn Jackson, and he mentioned that he wants to make Mr. & Ms. Georgia College the face of the school and a big part of [the Student Government Association] this year.

colonnade: How were you chosen to run?

shapiro: [For Zeta Tau Alpha,] they take a group vote. There's a few names thrown out there, then it's the majority wins. Then they start making your T-shirts and your buttons and doing all that campaigning stuff.

colonnade: How have the past few weeks been as Ms. GC?

shapiro: I don't notice any difference, but then occasionally I'll be referred to as Ms. GC. I'll forget that I am. I definitely don't really think about it all the time. I'm in a nonprofit marketing class, and we did a fundraiser for Helping Hands. One kid had me sign his hand, and he put it on Bobcat Exchange for \$30. So we were really just trying to help the cause.

colonnade: What are some tips for potential candidates next year?

shapiro: Just introduce yourself, tell a couple jokes. If you're a girl, maybe bring the boys some buffalo-chicken dip when you go talk to them.

colonnade: Were you shocked that you won?

shapiro: Yes. I thought it was really cool because Victoria Ferree is a Zeta also, and she's SGA President, or she was, and Mackenzie Burgess won last year, and she was also a Zeta. So it was really cool atmosphere when they were able to give me the crown. I actually really didn't see it coming at all; every girl was a great candidate.

Ukraine
Continued from page 1...

ing about it. One of them cried and crossed himself as he remembered all the dead. Overlooking our tent were the burned out remains of the Trade Unions Building, destroyed when Yanukovych's special forces tried to take the Maidan Feb. 18-19. Someone had painted pink dots on the building. Some said it was to take the emotional pressure off people, while others said the dots represented all those killed – burned alive – in the building. Throughout the week, I interviewed about a dozen or more such people. One interview took place at Hrushevsky Street, right at the barricades where violence first erupted Jan. 19-20, the night I'd left Kiev for Milledgeville, barricades featured on world newspapers for days and weeks. I managed to find many such people because a friend of mine worked at the Institute of Ukrainian History, which was literally next door to the Hrushevsky Street barricades. He was part of a group of people who helped fight police forces on the barricades, sometimes using canned meat as weapons. These people told all kinds

of stories about death and how they dealt with fear. For all of them, the fear of death disappeared as they went to help people with medical supplies or take part in the fighting. For all of them, the revolution has only begun. The new government, in their opinion, is either ineffective or still acts too much like the old one.

The Maidan itself had changed quite a bit from when I was last there in January. Men from self-defense forces wearing military camouflage were everywhere. The student protesters who started the revolution were long gone. The stage was lifeless, interrupted with a few TV broadcasts and small public gatherings in the evening.

Right Sector, one self-defense unit trying to promote itself as a political party and field a candidate in the May 25 presidential elections, occupied a few stores and a hotel along Kiev's main boulevard and at European Square. Teens and young men in their 20s were guarding these places, marked by Right Sector's red-and-black banner. One afternoon one of them popped out of the sporting goods store with what looked like an automatic rifle, and then he popped back inside.

It was frightening to see

such people making a presence on the Maidan, but further outside the city, life seemed to go on as normal. Despite an entire regime being toppled, Kiev was still Kiev.

Russia's occupation and annexation of Crimea produced a roller coaster of emotions. On the night of Crimea's referendum March 16, friends speculated that Russia was going to invade from the east and even bomb some strategic sites in Kiev (hitting the Maidan for psychological measure). On March 18, some friends and I at a bar were convinced war had broken out when another friend called and said that Russian soldiers had shot a Ukrainian soldier dead in Crimea. Yet somehow, all-out war didn't break out.

Instead, we started realizing what had happened to Crimea. The day after the referendum, a woman working at the Crimean Tatar restaurant on the Maidan, who talked about her relatives in Crimea, asked, "This isn't going to be forever, is it?"

Foreign experts had concluded it was so. Then on Friday, March 21, Vladimir Putin, Russia's president, signed documents officially bringing Crimea into the Russian Federation.

Heartbreaking videos ap-

peared on Youtube of Ukrainian military cadets in Sevastopol who decided to sing the Ukrainian national anthem rather than the Russian one as their naval academy officially changed hands. One of them cried as he took down the Ukrainian flag.

That same day, men in their 20s asked me if I could help get flak jackets to Ukraine for them. One of them talked about collecting money to buy a weapon worth \$1,000.

They had fixed their attention on the Kherson Region, outside Crimea, where Russian forces had occupied some strategic positions and seemed to be getting ready for an invasion from the south.

I came home from Kiev on Sunday, March 23. In the Atlanta airport, as dozens of high school students back from a mission trip screamed and cheered as they were "reunited" after their flight back from Bulgaria, I read the news officially confirming that Crimea was now part of Russia.

I thought of all those people the same age as these high school students, or a little older, young Ukrainians who were getting ready for war. The world may have avoided war over my Spring Break, but I fear that we are still on the brink.

Bike path
Continued from page 1...

is obtained. The main phase of interest to the community is the Downtown-West Campus connector which is set to start within the next year. This section of the trail will allow for hundreds of GC students to safely walk or bike to school.

Not only will this trail benefit GC students, but public school students as well as the Baldwin County School System is geographically intertwined with the university system in Milledgeville.

"If it weren't for the presence of West Campus out there I don't know that this would be happening," Heagy said.

The presence of the trail will have many other external benefits besides safely crossing streets. The use of this path by students will cut down on traffic

congestion, free up parking spaces and help reduce childhood obesity.

"One time I ended up having to miss a class because I couldn't find a parking spot," Adalie Buechner, a freshman mass communication major, said.

The project is already yielding exciting results with the grand opening of the first half-mile of Phase 1 in November of this year. The existing section of the Fishing Creek Community Trail extends from the Oconee Greenway to Elbert Street. Originally this phase was supposed to reach Wilkinson Street, but obstacles such as erosion cost more money to fix than first thought.

"What we've done so far has cost, like, \$150,000, and that's just a half-mile that isn't paved. To pave it it's going to be about \$300,000 per mile, so we're looking at probably \$2.3 to \$3 million to do the whole thing," said Jim Lidstone, Live

Healthy Baldwin advocate and director at GC's Center for Health and Social Issues.

GC President Steve Dorman also wants to see additional safety measures such as lighting and emergency call boxes installed along the path, which would add costs. Applying for additional grant funding continues.

"Live Healthy Baldwin," an initiative to increase opportunities for physical activity and fight childhood obesity, has been a large driving force behind this project along with the Oconee River Greenway Foundation, Bicycling Club of Milledgeville, Baldwin County Schools and numerous other advocacy groups.

Will you use the new path?

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ENGAGE

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Ric Crane

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- Former Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of Windstream Communications
- Senior positions in several Fortune 500 Companies, including GTE, ALLTELL, and Windstream Communications
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Friday, March 28

- 3:45 p.m. Women’s studies student symposium (Chappell 113)
- 4 p.m. GC softball vs. No. 3 Armstrong (West Campus)

Saturday, March 29

- 7 p.m. 29th Annual International Dinner (Magnolia Ballroom)

Sunday, March 30

- Noon GC softball vs. Flagler (West Campus)

NOTE: If you would like to see events on the calendar, please send them to colonnadenews@gcsu.edu.

Monday, March 31

- 11:30 a.m. Nursing and Sciences career expo (Magnolia Ballroom)
- 7:30 p.m. Guest artist series: Celtic Harp (Max Noah Recital Hall)

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT



*Incident does not appear on map Reports obtained from GC Public Safety

1 URINATING ON CENTURY BANK

Feb. 14 2:10 p.m. Sgt. Smith spotted a guy urinating on the wall of Century Bank. He was under 21 and had been drinking at Capital City. He was cooperative and was referred to the Student Judicial Review Board. *

2 FORKLIFT FRENZY

Feb. 21, 2:08 a.m. Officer McWilliams saw a guy sitting in the driver’s seat of a blue Genie Forklift, messing with the controls. Once the guy spotted McWilliams, he hopped off the forklift and started walking away. He did not heed warnings to stop walking and began running. McWilliams’ partner, Sgt. Smith, caught up with the guy at the corner of the Centennial parking lot and Clarke Street where the guy was tangled up in a briar patch. Smith and McWilliams struggled to pull the guy free. They sustained minor cuts on their arms and heads. The guy was arrested for disorderly conduct and underage possession of alcohol. The case was also referred to the Student Judicial Review Board.



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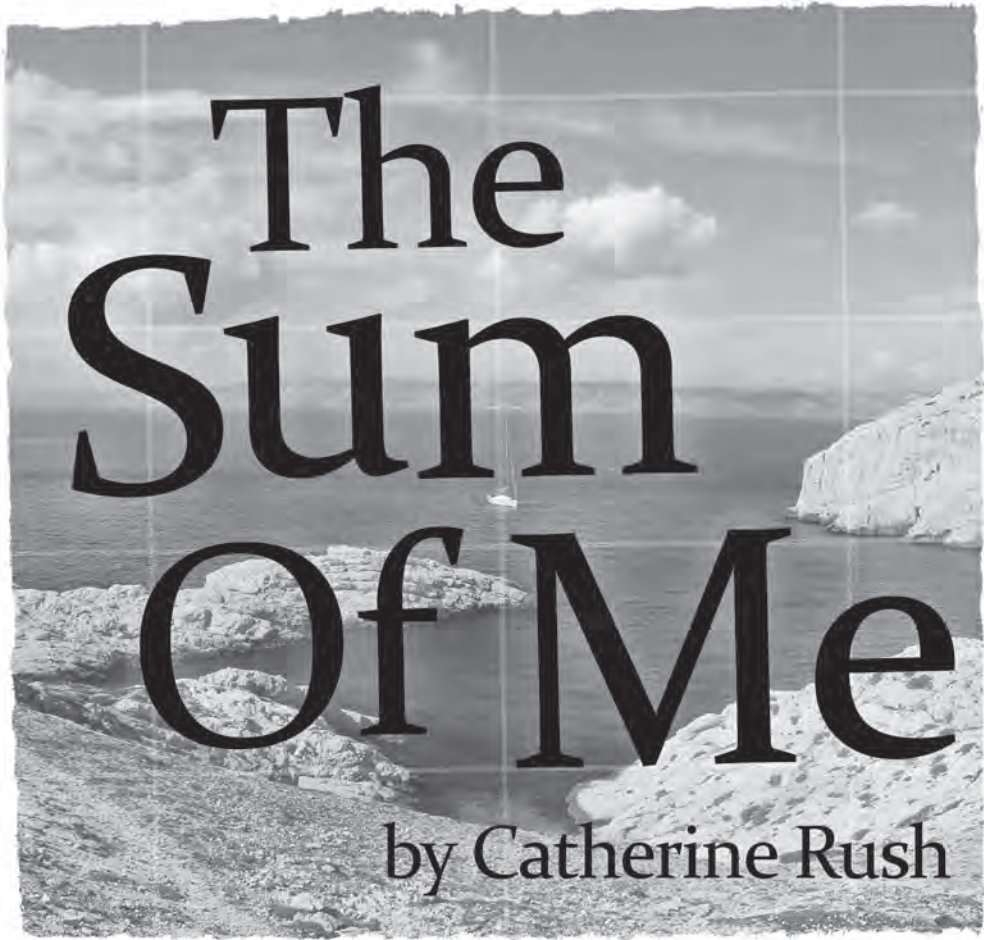
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Our Voice

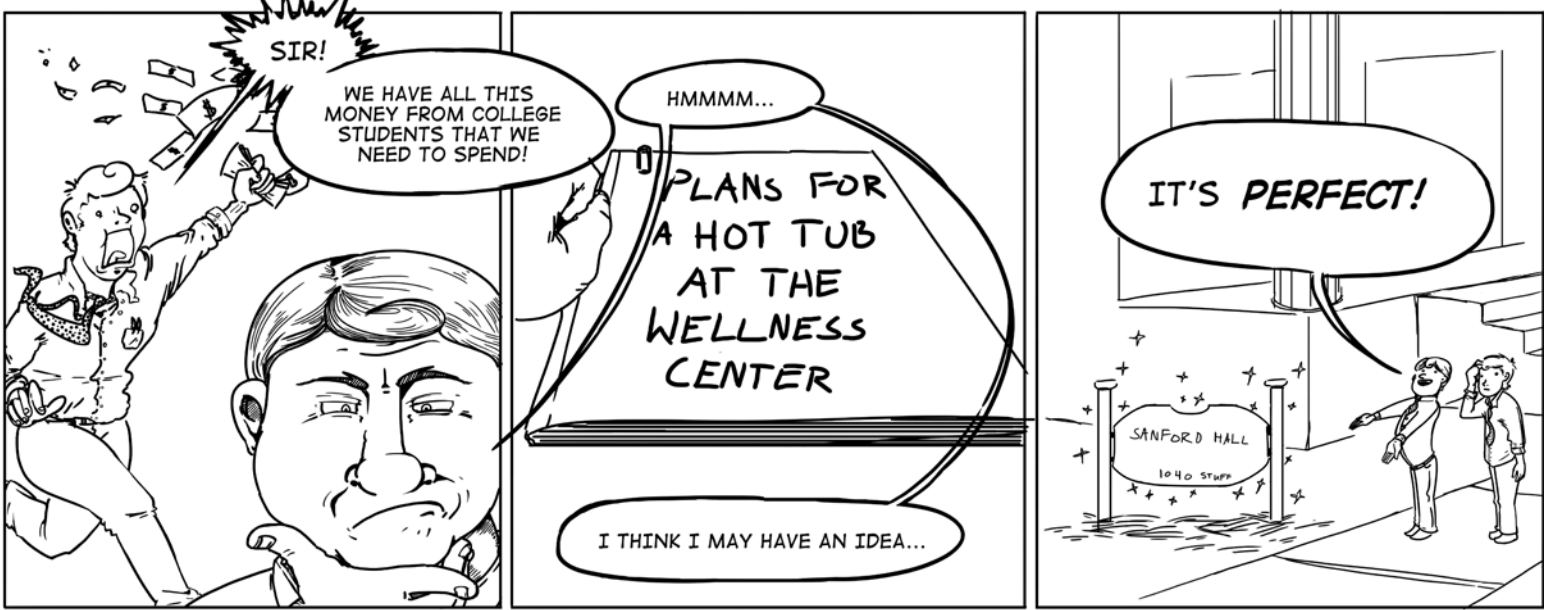
Smoking ban passed by Georgia Board of Regents

The Georgia Board of Regents has passed a ban on all tobacco products on campus. The ban was put into place in order to promote the better health of the students and faculty. Although in theory, this appears to benefit the students and faculty as they won't have to deal with tobacco products being used on campus, its effectiveness and enforceability are limited. The Board may have passed the ban, but it is conservative in its enforcement by leaving it up to the up to each university to enforce the ban. This ban affects more than 300 thousand students and 31 colleges and universities; however, the ban also affects much more than students. Professors, maintenance workers and bus drivers will not be able to go on smoke breaks anymore. The smoking shelters could also disappear.

The [smoking] ban affects more than 300 thousand students and 31 colleges and universities

The ban also puts Campus Police forces in an interesting position. What do they do when they see someone smoking? Write them a ticket? Being late to class because you got a ticket for smoking does not exactly sound like a valid excuse. Imagine it coming from a professor. "Brace yourselves, the tickets are coming." Police could write tickets for days for tobacco product usage. First, you might start reading about how a freshman was caught outside their dorm smoking a cigarette in the police reports. Then, with time, as the ban persists, getting a ticket for tobacco product usage will be at the bottom of the criminal offense totem pole, right there with parking tickets. Outside of the issue of how the system-wide tobacco product ban will be enforced, the ban presents another issue. Does the Board of Regents really have the authority to tell more than 300 thousand people that they cannot use what they are legally entitled to buy? On a Milledgeville-scale, it will still be easy to smoke here, just walk across a street. Downtown will now be at least twice as smoke-filled as it already is. Although the ban is large in scope, its effect on the Georgia College campus will be much more subliminal: Your stroll to class may be smoke free (if you don't smoke), or you might find yourself taking a more scenic route (if you do.)

And now, a take on how GC spends its money...



by: William Detjen

REAL TALK WITH CONSTANTINA Spring break mode is still in effect

CONSTANTINA KOKENES
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Let's be real: I'm still on spring break mode. I find myself wanting to sleep in the sun and watch Netflix. I don't want to write papers. I don't want to get up for my 8 a.m. And I certainly don't want to be expected to care. Alas, I am. It's odd. Right before spring break, I was terrified to graduate. I wasn't ready to move on. I wanted to stay at Georgia College forever. But then I got to take naps on the beach, and honestly, how can

#turnup

you expect me to be ready to finish the semester strong when I spent a week soaking in every aspect of the beach? The warm sun made me feel as if I was being tucked in by a parent. The waves crashing against me felt refreshing after getting sand all over my skin (I'll admit it: I enjoy building sandcastles). The smell of sea salt, sunscreen and sand in the air made me relax after weeks of studying, homework and general anxiety. And now I'm back at school...in cold classrooms and back to sleeping in my uncomfortable, cheap bed. I have to buckle down and get back to work or else the first half of the semester was all for nothing. I get it – I do. We're being prepared for the real world. There is no three-month long summer break or four-week off winter break. There is no spring or fall break. You have to work all of the time, and no one is going to say it's okay to miss a lot of work just because you're tired or too stressed out. But...just try to understand from the students' point of view. We've been working hard all semester, and then we get a week off – a week that goes by entirely too quickly. Then we're plopped right back into the classroom, with some of us having to immediately take tests or turn in projects. It's hard to bounce back immediately after we've spent all of that time relaxing. I'm not saying it's not possible to get straight back into it, but as time goes on, I find myself caring less and less. The last few weeks of spring semester are supposed to end on a high note, but we find ourselves slowly fizzling out during the last few weeks after break just because we can. I've never gone by this motto, but now that I'm graduating, I find myself more appealed to the idea that "C's get degrees." To be honest, it shocks me, as I've always been pretty motivated to end each semester on a good note. I think I'm just ready to get out there in the real world. Or maybe I'm just being lazy, which is a good possibility. Either way, I'm ready to just say, "Forget it" and head back to the beach. Who's with me? #turnup

#GC SB 14

The Colonnade team enjoyed Spring Break! Hashtag #GCSB14 on Instagram, and you might have your picture regrammed by The Colonnade (@thecolonnade)!



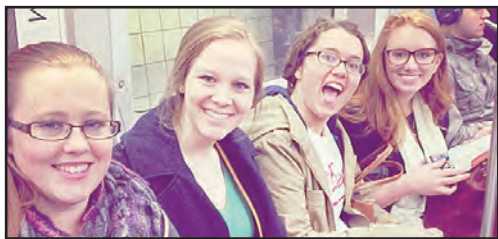
A&E Editor Scott Carranza spent his spring break at Amelia Island. Here, he poses with his wild game, a fallen beach tree. #hipster

Assistant Sports Editor Hampton Pelton and Designer Kat Wardell enjoyed their spring break at Hilton Head Island. The cute couple soaked up the sun and got their tans on. #adorable



Sports Editor Bethan Adams and her close friend, Jessica Sethman, had a blast during their spring break in Los Angeles. They ate it up at the legengary In-N-Out Burger. #dathollywoodlife

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Colonnade encourages readers to express their views and opinions by sending letters to the editor at: CBX 2442; Milledgeville, GA 31061 or by e-mail at colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu. Readers can also log onto GCSUnade.com and post comments on articles to voice opinions.

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 - major
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- Unsigned letters will not be printed. Names will be withheld only under very unusual circumstances.
 - Letters may be condensed.
 - All letters will be edited for grammar, spelling and punctuation errors.
 - All letters become the property of The Colonnade and cannot be returned.
 - We are not able to acknowledge their receipt or disposition.

Letters will be printed at the discretion of the editor-in-chief.

THE LITTER BOX

Bets on how long before the building signs get vandalized?

Everyone is thinking it, but im gonna say it. The new building signs look awful. They dont match the aesthetic of our school and they make our school look cheap.

The library used to have computers. I used to use them. Until they all disappeared. WHERE THE HECK DID THEY GO? And WHY the heck did they go there at THIS time of the semester??

Dear Econ Kid, there's a reason we don't part our hair in the middle.

Dear Econ Kid,

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Literally no one cares about Econ Kid.

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Interview
with
HARVEST
MOON

Colonnade reporter Lexi Scott sat down with the members of Harvest Moon to discuss the group’s recent rise to Georgia College fame



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY LEXI SCOTT

LEXI SCOTT
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Formed in late 2013, Harvest Moon is already creating quite the buzz in Milledgeville. Though it does strictly covers at the moment, members Crystal Pratt, Jonathan Riordan, Rachel Powell and Josh Harrison find ways to transform even pop songs to suit their folky, country vibe. Playing in familiar venues downtown and on campus, Harvest Moon chats about their successes and what’s to come for the band.

colonnade: Where did you meet?
crystal: We met through Young Life; we’re all Young Life leaders. Jonathan is best friends with my roommate, and that’s how I met him.
josh: Me and Crystal play together at Young Life. We knew Rachel could sing, and then Crystal told us how Jonathan could sing really well. We just meshed.
colonnade: Where did the band name come from?
josh: One night, we were playing, and we were trying to come up with a name. I got up to go to the kitchen. As soon as I got up, they read the back of my shirt, and the back of my shirt said “harvest moon.” Then they suggested, “Hey, why don’t we just be called Harvest Moon?” We were like, “That’s funny, my shirt

says that.” And we kept thinking about it, and we decided that is what we should be called.
colonnade: Do you only do covers or do you have your own original music?
crystal: We’re actually starting to write songs. We’re just working on time to get together to actually sit down and start writing our own, but right now we do covers.
colonnade: Who are your musical influences?
crystal: When we choose songs for shows, we definitely choose people who are popular like Gavin DeGraw and Lorde and just try to make it our own. For me, I really love Nickel Creek, the Lumineers, anything that’s acoustic, folky, down-home country.
colonnade: You guys got to play at GC Miracle’s Dance Marathon. How was it getting to play for the kids and what kind of reaction did you get from the crowd?
crystal: That was probably one of the most fun times we’ve ever had. The crowd was really receptive to us. It was really fun to get to do it for charity and for the kids.
rachel: I remember after we got off, Crystal was like, “Is this how Taylor Swift feels?” - just because once we got on stage, everyone rushed toward the stage.
colonnade: How do you balance everything -- school, the band and Young Life?
josh: It’s tough, but we’ve played at 1 a.m. before. It’s some-

thing that we’re all passionate about it, and we have fun doing it. It seems like no matter how busy everyone is, we always find time.
colonnade: If you could be on any TV or movie soundtrack, what would it be?
josh: The Disney soundtracks are great, but that’s not our style of music.
crystal: For me, personally, I think it’d be cool to sing a song for something like “Country Strong.”
colonnade: If you were to tour with one band, what band would it be?
crystal: I would love to tour with Carrie Underwood. Anybody who’s country.
jonathan: Zac Brown Band. That and the Jackson 5.
colonnade: If you were to put out an album, what would it be called and what kind of music would it be focused on?
crystal: I feel like our first album should be self-titled.
rachel: Our style would be country and folky just because [Jonathan] sings that really well.
colonnade: Crystal, I know you will be graduating. How is the band going to continue next year?
jonathan: We’re just hoping by the time she graduates that everything will be where it needs to be. We’ll just go from there.
josh: Nashville, here we come.

UNPLUGGED & STRIPPED
Acoustic music genre rises in popularity

TAYLOR HEMBREE
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Performing onstage accompanied only by an acoustic guitar and a microphone creates feelings of raw, honest vulnerability that makes acoustic music stand apart from other music genres. The acoustic genre can encompass all forms of music from rock ‘n’ roll to bluegrass; all that the artist has to do is take away the added effects in order to produce a genuine feeling of listening to their music on front row seats. When going through iTunes sessions and the searched acoustic tracks, I have compiled a list of artists every music lover should hear at least once.

Gavin Degraw
If you are a fan of pop and maybe not quite ready to venture into the acoustic realm, start out with Gavin. Check out his “Stripped” album. The music on that record consists of his voice, his piano and his guitar. Pure bliss, if you ask me. Gavin’s voice is soulful, and as a solo artist, he can totally pull off the acoustic sounds.

Amos Lee
He sings about being in love, falling in love, and his voice will make anybody’s heart melt into a huge puddle, all the while looking so handsome. His voice is incredibly soulful with an immaculate range and has just the right amount of Southern sound to be slightly country. His lyrics are meaningful and his songs are the perfect mix of “feel-good” and “I need a good cry.”

Alabama Shakes
If you search “iTunes Sessions” in the iTunes store, this group will come up multiple times. Its unplugged session with just voices and instruments rocks. The group has more of an old-school, Motown sound, and its session is definitely more on the edgier side. This group’s voice reminds me of Marvin Gaye and The Temptations.

Avett Brothers
This group is full of facial hair and guitar pickin’. If you are more of a country and bluegrass fan, check out this group. Its music is full of Southern roots with cool harmonies. The guys’ twangy and unique voices tend to sing about love and life.

CROSSWORD

Across

1 Pouch

4 Glance over

8 Sum up

13 Egg cells

14 Having skin ducts

16 Expunge

17 Male cat

18 Free-reed instrument

19 Palisade

20 Root vegetable

23 Neither’s partner

24 Blind parts

25 Celestial fields

27 Envision

28 Lecture

30 Hold off

33 Bluster

34 Most effective

37 Alias

38 Small boat

39 Title

40 Score, in pinochle

42 Purges

43 Chaotic

45 Rel address

47 Die number

48 Medicine man

50 Dramas

53 Playing card item

54 Diet drink

59 In pieces

61 Hollandaise, e.g.

62 Mid-West state (Abbr.)

63 Binge

64 Wild boar attachments

65 Adam’s lady

Down

1 Drunkards

2 Confesses

3 Beast of burden

4 Sentry

5 Cadaver

6 Jason’s ship

7 Tidy

8 Go straight

9 Before, to bards

10 Shrewdness

11 English race place

12 Equals

15 Some trial evidence, for short

21 Alleviate

22 Bakery offering

26 Hope or Crosby

28 Beach type

29 Nephew of Cain

30 Beaver’s work

31 Manage, with “out”

32 Go to pieces

33 Parade spoiler

35 Close relative

36 Attempt

38 Grump

41 Faint

43 Most temperate

44 Midterm, for one

46 Wine sampler

47 Motes

48 Tic

49 River horse

51 “Omigosh!”

52 Work extremely hard

55 Follower (Suffix)

56 Stake driver

57 Cogitate

58 Sensed

60 Antique auto

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Sum of Me

Arts and Letters winner debuts play about family, loss

ASHLEY MILLER
SENIOR REPORTER

History will be made in Georgia College's Max Noah Recital Hall this weekend.

The GC Department of Theatre will produce the world-premiere staging of the prize-winning play "The Sum of Me" on Friday and Saturday, March 28-29, at 8 p.m.

The play, written by Catherine Rush, won the \$1,000 grand prize last year in the Arts and Letters Prize contest. The play was selected as a senior directing capstone for Sarah Prochaska, a graduating theatre major.

"My challenge was to take my theatre major and my international studies plan and incorporate the two of them into a capstone," Prochaska said. "I chose directing because I really love the collaborative part of it. I like to create, help other achieve their goals, and I feel like this was the best way for me to do that."

The play centers on three adult siblings who have gathered in France to make peace among themselves after their mother's death. Although the play sounds like it has the potential to be a tear-jerker, it is more about self-discovery and the importance of family.

"It's a complicated play but I think it's very cathartic, and it gives you an outlet at the end."

Stephanie House,
senior creative writing major

Stephanie House, a senior creative writing major, played the ghost of the mother, a character that added more emotional drive to the story.

"It's a complicated play but I think it's very cathartic, and it gives you an outlet at the end of the play," House said. "People will be relieved and not sad. People will feel like a weight has been lifted off them. It's always helpful to see things from a different perspective."

House's ghost of Susan is meant to evoke memories that the siblings have of their mother. She is on the stage unknown to her children, reacting to what they say. Her words are the things she always told them.

"My idea about it is, that these past few months [have] been the first time that she's out of her body, which is your home, so it's kind of like becoming homeless for the first time," House said. "It's scary, and you feel very exposed the whole time. I think by the end of the play she embraces that and says, 'OK, this is me now. This has always been me, but now I'm not trapped or limited.'"

Prochaska spoke of the realism of the characters that she expects students will be able to relate to, even if they have never lost a loved one.

"What everyone will find in it is a little bit of their own family," Prochaska said. "Our playwright, Catherine Rush, has created very real people and they are easily moldable to be your family, my family, somebody else's family. So it's easy to identify with them. When they are finally able to bury their mother it touches your heart."

Kayleigh Mikell, a freshman theatre major, who plays the older, still-single sister Portia, found that she loved being directed by a student.

"It's different than being directed by a faculty member. It's much more carefree," Mikell said. "Sarah has been really good at directing us ... We [even] did a whole week of cast bonding."

Because the play is only 23 minutes long, the actors and director have had plenty of time to work on each character individually, which can be impossible for larger productions.

"[Sarah taught us] that the actor is using the body as an instrument," House said. "This play has a lot of movement without words ... It's interesting to see how she's getting us to develop the character's physicality."

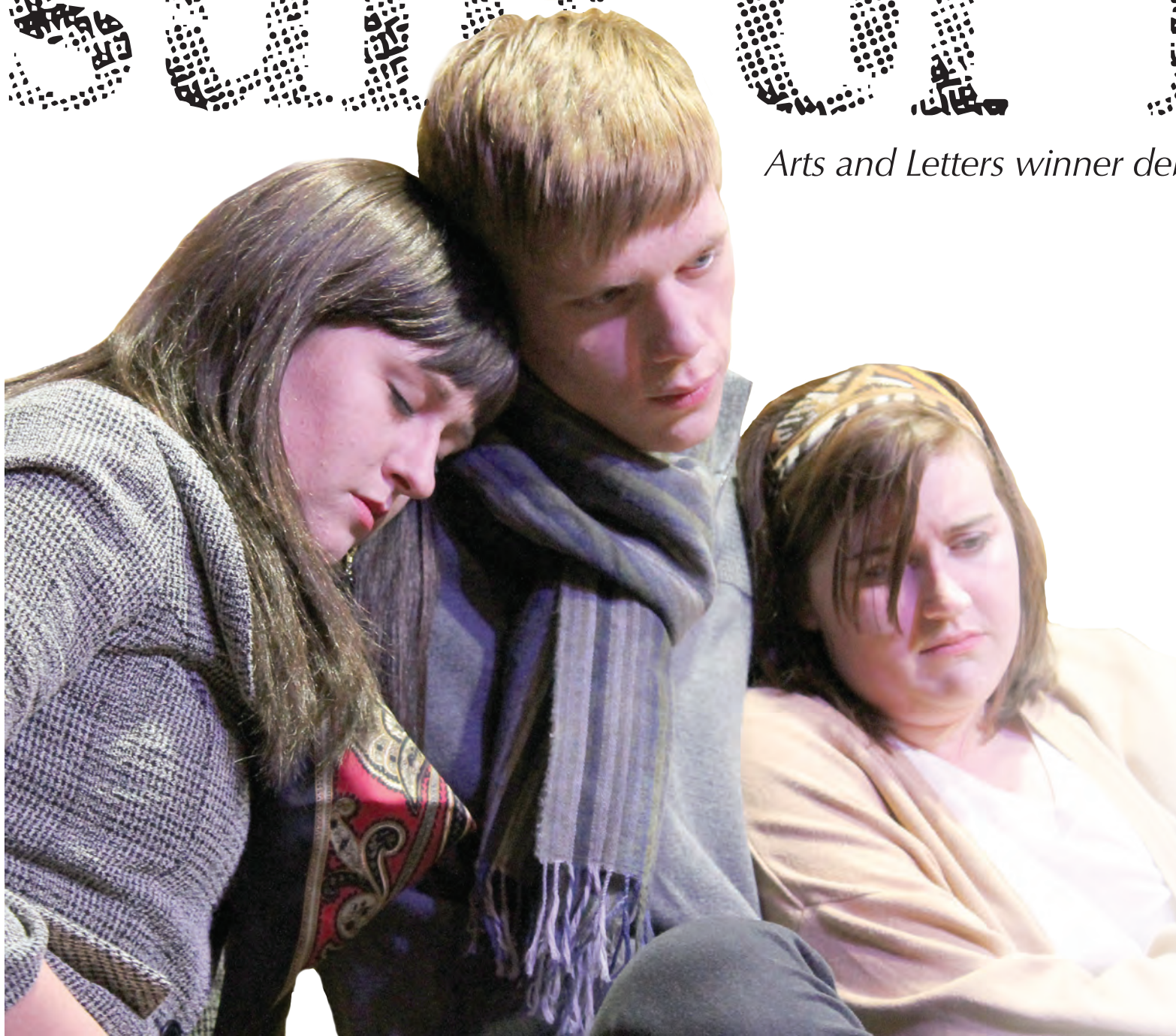
The playwright will join the cast on opening night for a talk with the audience and to view her production for the first time.

The members of the production said that they are more excited than nervous to meet the playwright. They have had web-cam chat sessions with Rush and discussed the characters at length but have never met her face-to-face.

"[Rush] said it was our job to bring [the play] to life; whatever [we thought] each character would do, then do it," Mikell said.

Prochaska hopes that the play will encourage diversity at GC and inspire students to take up traveling abroad, an experience that she says changed her life.

"I'm a student who's very into diversity and international education," Prochaska said. "It's so vital and such an important part of who you are to learn about other cultures. I think that this play does just that: It draws attention to what Georgia College needs. I think if every student took a little bit of what they love and brought it to GC, then by their senior year, it's a better place."



BECKY SLACK / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

(Above) From left to right, Kayleigh Mikell, Will Morris and Lyssa Hoganson portray a group of siblings struggling with the burial of their mother. (Bottom-right) Stephanie House portrays the ghost of their mother and is present during most of the scenes. (Bottom-left) The mother watches over her children as a spirit.



Dance festival jetés onto campus



CONSTANTINA KOKENES / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

The American College Dance Festival Association drew hundreds of dancers from across the Southeast. Each day consisted of classes taught by professors and students from across the country that dancers could attend, with styles ranging from Ballet to Afro-Fusion dance. At the end of each day, there would be a performance where schools' dances were adjudicated. Each performance contained a mix of both faculty and student choreography. Some were classical, some were awe-inspiring and some were edgy. A few were just weird. On the last day, in addition to a last couple classes, there was a Gala with adjudicator-selected dances.



THE SHOW IS FOR MATURE AUDIENCE MEMBERS. ADMISSION FOR GC STUDENTS IS \$2 AND \$4 FOR THE PUBLIC.



From records to reality, landlord
Don Braxley shares music history

SARAH GRACE
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The period when the record player consistently spun its course to melodies by Bob Dylan or Janis Joplin, and the phrase “free love” became a lifestyle, was “a time full of great fun, great music and great people” said Milledgeville native Don Braxley.

Despite his current job as the owner of Deep South Realty, his attic’s growing collection of records and his silver-gray ponytail show that his hippie nature and musical experiences are forever nestled in his soul.

In the late 1960s, managing bands was a dream of Braxley’s, and he was always trying to get involved with his musically-inclined friends. A handful of his best friends played in a top 40 dance band, but split up after high school in 1972. The music brought them back together in their college years, when they asked Braxley to be their manager. From Ozo to Oconee, this emergent jazz band’s name was officially established.

Braxley was in and out of small studios, consistently striving to work his way toward making business with well-known bands.

During a typical afternoon in his small Macon office, a call came in on his bright-red desk phone. Paragon Agency, which represented bands such as the Allman Brothers Band, the Charlie Daniels Band and Lynyrd Skynyrd, offered Braxley a position as the booking agent.

“I felt like I was a rock star, but I was really just the dude in the office making calls,” Braxley said. He remembers spending days on end calling hundreds of colleges in the Northeast to book the Allman Brothers for a few shows.

John Huie, booking agent partner at Paragon Agency, said, “Don was passionate about the business, and loved Southern rock music, so we got along real well.”

The agency hired a band from England to come play in Milledgeville in 1978, and Braxley was responsible for picking them up from the Atlanta airport in a shiny black 1975 Cadillac DeVille and taking them to their tour destinations.

It was the band’s first time in the United States, and the first stop was Milledgeville.

The band’s name? The Police.

The concert was in what is currently known as Asian Bistro in downtown Milledgeville. In a span of six months, the group went from play-

“I spent a solid 15 years in the music business, but eventually I wanted a family. I knew I couldn’t have babies if I was still a booking agent, because I was constantly surrounded by crazy women and illegal drugs.”

*Don Braxley,
Deep South Realtor*

ing in small-town bars to selling out stadiums in big cities.

Braxley swivels in his desk chair thinking back on those times.

“There were many perks of being a hippie. Women didn’t wear bras during the free love movement, which resulted in me frequently turning my neck and accidentally running into things,” Braxley said with a grin.

Amanda Oglesby, a tenant of Braxley’s, said, “Every month I go into his office to pay my rent, it never fails that he shows me a different trinket accompanied by a story, whether it be a signed album or a photograph from his college days.”

He keeps a picture of he and his wife Jane from the 1970s on his desk. In the photo, Don has a full beard and hair to his shoulders.

“There was an off-point in my career while I needed to grow up and settle down a bit,” Don said.

He and his wife worked as social workers at Central State Hospital for a few years providing counseling and care to mentally ill patients.

“Don was probably the worst social worker in the history of mankind,” Jane Braxley said. “No career would ever be as enjoyable to him as working with the guys from the agency and hanging with band members backstage at shows.”

One morning before work in his heyday, he took a call from his band buddies from Oconee.

“Don, we are back on the road and we are going to be rock stars, what do you say?” Oconee band member and close friend Mike Mills said.

Don skeptically told his wife about the proposal, knowing that there was no way she would agree to him getting back in the business.

Jane put down her newspaper, intertwined her hands into a fist and said, “OK, just be safe.”



SARAH GRACE / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Posing with his closet of dusty records from a time long gone, Don Braxley is now a realtor in Milledgeville. Braxley has seen his fair share of famous bands, including driving The Police to their tour destinations.

When Don returned to Paragon Agency he got a call from a high school boy, proposing that he consider being the manager of his new band. Don asked to hear a few songs from them in a local studio first, and after getting an “earful of chaos,” as Don called it, the band’s offer was turned down.

Several years later, the music group added and subtracted a few members and became R.E.M.

“This is why I am the average old guy selling real estate now and no longer in the music industry. Every time I listen to one of their al-

bums, all I can think about is how I could be working with one of my favorite bands of all time, but I suppose it was someone else’s turn,” Don said.

“I spent a solid 15 years in the music business, but eventually I wanted a family. I knew that I couldn’t have babies if I was still a booking agent, because I was constantly surrounded by crazy women and illegal drugs.”

After 20 years as the owner of Deep South Realty, he displays his “hippies use backdoor,” sign in his office’s front lobby, symbolizing fulfilling experiences and fond memories.

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SPOTLIGHT



by Sophie Goodman

Double, double toil and trouble. Identical twins, Maggie and Lily Robins are still best friends even after 20 years spent side by side, going to the same university



MAGGIE A SOPHOMORE EDUCATION MAJOR

A: We shared a room from when we were born to about 14. We actually had the option to get different rooms. I had my own room, but I was too scared to sleep in it by myself so I would go into [Lily's] room at night.

Q: Do you live together now?

A: We live literally right next door to each other. It's nice living next door. I walk next door and can borrow a bunch of clothes and stuff. It's a short distance to share clothes and to hang out.

Q: Do you still spend time together?

A: We like to hang out a lot. I think because we're so different, we make better friends. We hang out all the time, probably every day.

Q: What are some funny things you did growing up?

A: When we were a little older, 8 [or] 9, we had a bedroom on the first floor of our house, and we would open the windows and just randomly leave.

Q: What do you like about being a twin?

A: Growing up, we were always in the same class, even though they sat us on completely opposite sides of the room. So you always have a friend, which is nice. You don't have to do anything alone.

Q: Describe Lily.

A: Lily is very emotional, not in a bad way. She wants to be friends with everybody which is a really great quality. She is more vocal about her feelings. She won't tell you what she's feeling, but when she will, she goes all out and tell you everything she's feeling and want to talk about it.

Q: Did you share a room growing up?

Q: What do you like about being a twin?

A: I definitely would say the built-in best friend thing. When we moved to Georgia, we started high school. We went to a private Christian school with a class size of about 70 kids, to [a] Georgia public school, which is a class size of about 400. Doing that and walking in your first day, not knowing a single person, and having to try and figure that out. It's so much better with someone that you can experience it with. You're going through the exact same thing, you're meeting the exact same people, we're going [through] the exact same thing.

Q: What do you dislike about being a twin?

A: You have to share everything. We're so different in the fact that our attitudes are so different.

Q: Describe Maggie.

A: Maggie's more outspoken and more generally blunt and some would even go as far to say aggressive.

Q: What were you two like growing up?



LILY, A SOPHOMORE SPANISH MAJOR

A: I would say mischief is the biggest thing. We've always been literally side-by-side together, and so when we were little, we were really rambunctious. We had two baby gates stacked on top of each other because we would climb over the first one. We would climb on top of the counters. We ate everything. We've always pushed each other because we're very competitive.

Q: How did your parents know which twin you were?

A: When we were newborns, my mom painted [Maggie's] toenails red, so she could make sure she knew which one was which. Now, she calls us every name in the book.

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The following list of names consists of a small sample of the GC community who decided to come together and stop the hate. We will not continue to put up with hateful words, thoughts or actions towards anyone of any race, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity and expression, religion or ability. Our fight against hateful speech and actions doesn't end with the words on this message. Please join us in our continuous fight against ALL forms of discrimination and hatred.

Signed:

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GC Prowlers club new on campus

Students start first-ever running club

TAYLOR ROECK
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Two students are forming Georgia College's first running club, The GC Prowlers, in an effort to create a community for the sport they love. Freshman undeclared majors Nina Orr and Carly O'Saben took the initiative to create the GC

Prowlers after they discovered that there was no recreational running group on campus.

"We're actually suitemates, so during the Week of Welcome, we were walking around Centennial looking at all the clubs, and we thought, 'Let's go sign up for the running club.'" O'Saben said. "We did circles, and we found out that there wasn't one."

The two suitemates share a passion for running and knew that GC needed a group to bring runners together. They began discussing ideas with one of their roommates.

Check out the Q&A with the GC Prowlers' faculty adviser and past Olympic competitor on page 14

"We were sitting in our dorm, talking, and then we decided that we should start it," Orr said. "This was last semester, but this semester we decided that we should do it."

They worked with Larbi Oukada, department chair of modern languages and cultures, to create the club.

There is already an OrgSync page

for the GC Prowlers, and a website and Facebook page will be created soon, where members will be able to join an email list. Through the website, new members will be able to indicate what races they want to train for, how far they want to run and what pace they prefer.

The first official meeting will be at Bonner Park April 10 at 6 p.m. Subsequent running sessions will take place at the Baldwin County Track, Bartram Forest and West Campus. Orr and O'Saben empha

Prowlers page 15

Hamp's Huddle



Retired at 26

One of the better running backs in the National Football League, Rashard Mendenhall of the Arizona Cardinals, has retired at age 26.

Although it's depressing to see such a talented player leave the NFL, it's even more heartbreaking to hear of his reasoning for leaving.

Mendenhall was the 23rd overall pick in 2008 when he was drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers and spent five seasons with them.

After his career peaked in 2010, the running back continued to press on with Pittsburgh for another two seasons and then signed with the Cardinals in 2013, where, soon after, he ended his NFL career.

The retirement was shocking, not only due to his young age, but because his career was on the rise: Mendenhall had seemed to find his niche with the Cardinals and his performances were improving.

After going to two super bowls, making plenty of money and having a successful career, the football player, seemingly in his prime, retired.

I'm thrilled to see a player leave the game when it ceases to be what it used to.

Mendenhall explains in his blog post on Huffington Post, titled "Why I Retired At 26," which has been shared more than 34,000 times on Facebook, why he decided to leave.

"I actually didn't really plan on saying anything about my retirement at all," Mendenhall said. "I just kind of wanted to disappear. ... I was okay with the idea of fading to black."

The ex-NFL running back's post was solemn and dark, expressing his struggle to find peace amid racism and life in the public eye.

"Imagine having a job where you're always on duty and can never fully relax, or you just may drown," Mendenhall wrote. "Having to fight through waves and currents of praise and criticism, but mostly hate."

Mendenhall mourns what the NFL has become: a cold game of stats, fantasy points and a game based purely on entertainment instead of playing for the sake of football.

"My older brother coaches football at the high school and youth level," Mendenhall said. "One day he called me and said, 'These kids don't want to work hard. All they wanna do is look cool, celebrate after plays and get more followers on Instagram!' I told him that they might actually have it figured out."

Leaving football on the grounds of a sense of accomplishment, searching for peace and not seeing himself as an entertainer, Mendenhall moves on to pursue his interests of dance, art and literature.

I commend Mendenhall for his thought-out, written retirement explanation, and furthermore for ending a chapter in a clean break and moving forward.

He is choosing to live a full life. Often, we find ourselves consumed by society and what it pushes us to do, instead of focusing on why we started in the first place.

I'm thrilled to see a player leave the game when it ceases to be what it used to.



Students combine multiple sports to make up one club

AMANDA MORRIS
STAFF REPORTER

Swimmers, bikers and runners make up the Georgia College Multisport Club. Founded two years ago by MBA graduate student Mark Schleier and senior liberal studies major Laura Jerkins, the club allows students to train for multisport events such as triathlons, duathlons and adventure races along with the individual sports.

Founders Schleier and Jerkins merged their initial triathlon team idea with the GC Cycling Club, which resulted in the multisport team.

The club has since achieved the status of being an official USA Triathlon and USA Cycling club, which means GC is a nationally recognized college that offers an official club for triathlon and cycling training, so that students can compete and represent GC at the collegiate level.

"We're essentially a running club, biking club, swimming club and then triathlon club along with whatever else falls under that," Schleier said.

Members within the club are available to help train and educate beginners so that their personal skill levels grow, while strengthening the team as a whole.

"One really cool thing is that people find our club and are initially just strong in one area like running or cycling, but most of the people that have come to the club had no experience swimming," Jerkins said. "And since it's a multisport club they were open to learning because there were people there to teach them. So we've taught a lot of people that had no technique at all when they started and they've just gone on to develop really good swimming techniques."

The club is open to anyone who has an interest in competing, either on the collegiate level or recreationally, in multisport events or in any of the sports separately, regardless of skill level.

Current president, Logan Creekmur, freshman economics major, said "It's really more of social training; no one's going to kill themselves [by training too extremely]. We're trying to have fun while getting fit."

This notion is also shared by the faculty advisor

Multisport page 15



Top, James Hendershott, left, and Drew Blankenbecker, right, show off their biking skills. Above (center), club members showcase their differing sportswear. Above (left) From left to right, Laura Jerkins, Alex Rinaudo and Joanie Hebert practice running together. Above (right) Anslee Cannon lifts her specialized triathlon bike.

Upcoming Games

Men's and Women's Tennis

Saturday, March 29 @ GC v. Young Harris, 11 a.m.

Baseball

Saturday, March 29 @ Carson-Newman, noon

Softball

Saturday, March 29 @ GC v. Armstrong, 4 p.m.

Quote of the Week

"Our goal is to build a community through the love of running because you form bonds with everyone."

-Nina Orr
Prowlers co-founder

Notable Stat

2

The number of collegiate track records GC's modern languages and cultures department chair, Larbi Oukada, holds to date.

The Short Stop





Above (left) Freshman pitcher Kyle Ward launches the ball towards a Clark Atlanta batter. Above (center) Senior infielder Daniel Bick rounds the bases with a grin. Above (right) Sophomore outfielder Jake Sandlin prepares to hit the ball in the Tuesday game March 25. The next game is Saturday, March 29 at Carson-Newman.

CONSTANTINA KOKENES / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER



No. 9 Bobcats SWAT Panthers

Tuesday's game brings a 17-0 win for GC on a blustery day

CONSTANTINA KOKENES
SENIOR REPORTER

A small, white dog was one of the only fans for the Bobcats in their games against the Clark Atlanta Panthers.

The dog's owners huddled around a heater, bracing themselves against the 20-32 mph wind at the sparsely-attended home game on Tuesday.

The No. 9 GC baseball team dominated the Panthers 13-4 in the first game and 17-0 in the second.

Senior outfielder Ryan Sabalasky scored three runs and had an RBI for the Bobcats, and senior outfielder Rob Hogenkamp scored twice. Freshman second baseman Brandon Benson had an RBI and scored four runs in the second game.

"Consistency is pretty tough," Brandon Benson, freshman second

baseman, said. "You got to come out here every day and do your best."

Four Bobcats pitchers combined to strike out 13 Panthers in the second game.

The Panthers were substantially smaller in stature and numbers in relation to the Bobcats.

"You just have to come prepared," Carty said. "When you know you have talent, you hope it shows at the end of the day."

Q&A with past Olympian

GC Prowlers' adviser, record holder discusses his career and '68 Olympics

TAYLOR ROECK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Q&A with Georgia College modern languages and cultures department chair Larbi Oukada, who competed in the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City as a 17-year-old, and is the academic advisor for the new GC Prowlers running club. Oukada talks about his current, unbeaten college record, his passion for running, his take on the Olympic Village and on playing checkers with a Polish, Olympic sprinter.

colonnade: In which events did you compete?

oukada: I did the 3,000-meter steeplechase. I was supposed to be doing that and the 5,000 meters, but it was in the high altitude, and it was my first Olympics. I was only 17 and a half, so I was very young. It was just the pleasure of participating in the Olympics. But I didn't make it to the finals. I made it through the first heat.

colonnade: What place were you in the first heat of the 3000-meter steeplechase?

oukada: I came in eighth. You had to be in the top four to move on.

colonnade: This was your only Olympics?

oukada: Yes. I was supposed to do the 1972 Olympics in Munich, but there was some turmoil and the Moroccan delegation, among many other delegations, had to leave. So we didn't participate.

colonnade: What was the experience like for you, since you were so young?

oukada: The memory that stayed with me, and it is a beautiful memory, was to walk into the Olympic Village, where 10,000 athletes from all different parts of the world were living together. I remember saying to myself, "Wow, these 10,000 athletes can live together in peace and harmony, the world can also." It made me very optimistic that one day all of us that share this planet can live in peace and harmony.

colonnade: Why does this memory stand out?



Larbi Oukada

oukada: Because there were racial tensions. In fact, in the '68 Olympics there was a moment when two American athletes raised their fists to speak out against racism in the U.S. But, again, within the Olympic Village, we were really color blind. There was also the Cold War and Communism versus capitalism. In my building, we were with the Polish delegation and at that time they were communist country. But it was just young people sharing the love of sports.

colonnade: Did you get to meet anyone you looked up to?

oukada: With social networking nowadays, I recently received an email from someone in Poland who I became friends with during the Olympics. We used to play checkers. He was a sprinter. He even sent pictures that we took during the Olympics.

colonnade: When did you find your passion for running?

oukada: I am a firm believer that life is a series of accidents. It's by chance that I discovered running and discovered that I was good at it. Once I was good at it, I was motivated to

work at it. The more you work at it, the better you get. I don't think it was something I reflected on. It was more accidental. For me, it was a blessing because I was able to get a track scholarship to come to the U.S., compete and go to school. The other message I would really like to send to young people, to see them more engaged in athletic events, is that it helps us stay on track by not over-drinking and over-indulging. I think that's another dividend that athletics gives people.

colonnade: You received that scholarship after the Olympics? What school did you attend with your scholarship?

oukada: Yes. It was at a college in Kansas called Fort Hays State University. They were one of the premier middle distance colleges. We won a national championship in cross country in 1969. When people ask me what my biggest achievement in life, I tell them that I still hold the college record for the 5,000m and 10,000m to this day [set in 1969 and 1970 respectively]. The university athletic department has an archive with the records for the school.

colonnade: What would be your advice for runners looking to improve themselves?

oukada: One thing that I learned in my experience is that human beings are born to run. Running is really so natural; it's part of who we are. Any person can run and can improve their running skills. It's something you get better at by doing it. It starts where you only run ten minutes, then two weeks later you run 15, three months down the road it's 30 minutes, and then it becomes 45 minutes. If you stick with it for a year, then you can easily run for an hour. One has to be patient, and it's really a training in patience. Plus, you get to run outside, and it's nice to experience nature. It has dividends: By exercising today, you're doing something wonderful for your health for years to come.

colonnade: How did you get involved with the GC Prowlers?

oukada: Some cross country runners sent [club founders Nina Orr and Carly O'Saben] to me and obviously running is a huge part of my life, so I would do anything to help the club get

FAST FACTS

1 Competed in 1968 Olympics in Mexico City

17 years old in the Olympics

3 1969 college record for 5,000m 14:20.44

1970 college record for 10,000m 28:45.64

5 Used to play checkers with a Polish sprinter during Olympics

going. I'm happy to do what I can to promote a healthy lifestyle on campus.

colonnade: Why do you think a club like this is helpful for runners?

oukada: One of the reasons that we need to have a club of this nature is, quite often, the spirit is willing but there is laziness. When there's a group of people doing it, they encourage each other.

colonnade: How would you like to see the club grow?

oukada: I think initially, like most running clubs, it's a moral support type of organization. People that want to exercise but get a little lazy can join a group that helps everyone. Another part is setting some goals. A college club could assist people in setting goals. Like if someone wants to run a half marathon two years from now. A club provides that motivation. On the organizational side of it, the officers will come up with some ideas and were talking about coming up with some running events once a week.

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Multisport

Continued from page 13...

of the club and study abroad advisor, Liz Havey.

“It’s about getting more people out and being physically active in a fun and supportive environment,” Havey said.

The club holds “mock triathlons” before competitions, so that inexperienced members can get a feel for what to expect during the actual race.



Triathlons were added Jan. 14 to the list of sports included in the NCAA emerging sports list.



SPORTS IN MULTISPORT CLUB

- Triathlons
- Duathlons
- Adventure Races
- Swimming
- Biking
- Running

The club also gives training sessions that cover important topics like proper racing strategies, bike maintenance and transitioning sequences, from swimming to biking, quickly and efficiently.

Group members usually share certain materials because of the high cost of the equipment, like the special type of bike needed to compete in both street and mountain biking races.

The club uses its Facebook group as well as its website, multisport.gcsu.edu, to organize an official training schedule. As the weather continues to get warmer, the club will create an official schedule for this semester.

Group training sessions take place on West Campus as well as surrounding areas in Milledgeville.

If members are unable to make the official training times, they have the option to simply post on the Facebook group that they are going out for a run, swim or bike ride and the invitation is open for anyone to join them.

Outside of the athletic nature of the club, there are also various other goals that the club strives to achieve.

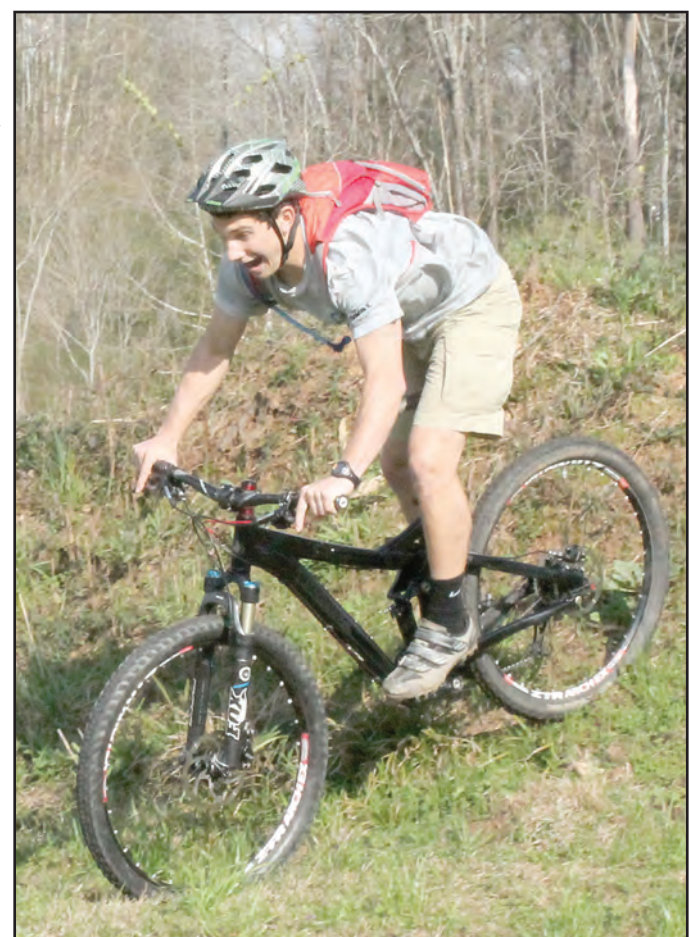
“We also wanted to make it a healthy-mindset club so that we could catch freshmen and sophomores early on in college and show them other ways to enjoy their college experience besides just partying and all that,” Schleier said.

One of these ways includes environmental stewardship, like biking or walking to class, and primarily finding more environmentally friendly ways of transportation. The group also cleans up nature trails and the trails they train on.

Another aspect would be the bonds that are built and connections established by working within a small group like this club.

“As much as competition is part of the focus, it’s really about camaraderie and developing relationships with other people who may or may not even think of themselves necessarily as athletes but are interesting in being physically active in their day-to-day while creating a network, so you don’t have to do this on your own,” Havey said.

The next big race the club will participate in is the Early Bird Sprint Triathlon in Athens April 13.



BECKY SLACK / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Drew Blankenbecler smiles after landing a jump at the Greenway, showing off his biking skills as a member of the multisport club.

Prowlers

Continued from page 13...

sized that participants are welcome to go at their own pace at each meeting.

“One of our executive members will probably start a walking group,” Orr said. “Then [O’Saben] will probably take distance people, and I’ll take shorter distance people. Just depending on what people want to do.”

Eventually, the club hopes to participate in local fun runs and 5Ks. It may also compete with other collegiate running clubs.

“Georgia Southern started a running club, too, maybe two or three years ago,” Orr said. “They said to call them if we want to do stuff together. Like a duo or mock meet.”

As the faculty advisor for the Prowlers, Oukada is enthusiastic about such a group being started at GC. A former Olympic runner, Oukada has high hopes for the benefits the club can offer students.

“One of the reasons that we need to have a club of this nature is because quite often the spirit is willing but there is laziness. When there is a group of people doing it, they encourage one another to run.”

Larbi Oukada
Prowlers adviser

“One of the reasons that we need to have a club of this nature is because quite often the spirit is willing but there is laziness,” Oukada said. “When there is a group of people doing it,

they encourage one another to run.”

Both O’Saben and Orr are experienced runners, having competed for years. O’Saben ran club cross country in middle school, and then continued with both track and cross country for four years in high school. Orr competed in volleyball for two years, in addition to track. She also ran with the cross country team in the summer. She ran her first half-marathon in November.

The founders speak passionately about the benefits running offers. They emphasize the wonderful friends they have made and the confidence running has given them.

“I like it because it’s a great way to set a goal in a short amount of time,” O’Saben said. “That’s why I liked track so much, because ... every week I would have a different goal. Usually, I would meet it, and that builds your confidence. Like, if I can accomplish this goal, I can ace this test.”

Eventually, they would like to see the club grow and turn into a club running team with a varsity squad. For now, though, the focus is on

FIRST MEETING:
APRIL 10, 6 P.M. AT
BONNER PARK

TABLING:
APRIL 7, 8 AND 9

bringing runners together.

“Our goal is to build a community through the love of running because you form bonds with everyone,” Orr said.

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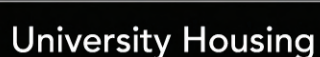
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